

Whom are you pleasing?

Allah's name (we) begin with, the Most Affectionate the Merciful

The need for mankind to perform introspection has always been crucial. This enables him to see for himself his strengths and weaknesses and what is his connection with the surroundings. When people do not introspect they enter a state of perpetual immobilization where they can never achieve emotional and spiritual growth. A notion of quiet introspection is also given by the Chilean poet 'Pablo Neruda' in his poem "Keeping Quiet", where he has called the world to have a quiet analysis of self and see what all destruction it has caused to the earth. The introspection I'm talking about helps a man to check his connection with his creator Allah the exalted. The Qur'an warns mankind to look into themselves and observe every deed they are doing as they will be asked about the same by the One who is always seeing:

"O Believers! Fear Allah and let every soul should see that what it sent forth for tomorrow and fear Allah. Undoubtedly Allah is aware of your doings" (59:11)

This introspection is the very basis of spiritual cleanliness which the Sufi scholars term as "*Tazkiya e Qalb*" (cleansing the heart) as when the heart is cleansed of all evil thoughts and feelings, it is as if the person has made his heart befitting for the manifestation of beauty of Allah to befall upon his heart and

make it an ocean of spirituality. It is the way to reach the ‘*Qurb*’ (spiritual closeness) to the Allah the almighty. But this can only be achieved when man does not follow his own desires and makes sacrifices of passions over good conduct. We must pay heed that every action that we do is recorded. The Noble Qur’an states:

“And We record what they send ahead and the signs they will leave behind; and We have accounted all things in a clear Book” (36:11)

Thus, we must be mindful of our deeds.

To follow passion and desires leads one to the gates of Hell, as man’s desires are never fulfilled and he does not have regard for the right and wrong when he is enticed by worldly beauty all he cares for is his wants and how to satisfy them.

If you look at the condition of most of the people today, you will notice that they are doing things which please them, heedless of the commandments of the Qur’an, the ordinances of the Beloved and Blessed Prophet Muhammad (may Allah shower peace and blessings upon him), the verdicts of the Blessed Scholars (may Allah increase their ranks). The root cause for that is the ignorance of people towards submitting one’s own will to the divine will of Allah, which is stopping to please oneself and striving to please the Lord. But this notion might seem alien to some minds, as all they have been doing their whole lives until now is self-appeasement. They have closed their eyes from seeing the truth and as a consequence their hearts have become blind. The Qur’an warns us:

“Therefore let never the life of this world deceive you and let never the big deceiver (Satan) deceive you concerning Allah” (31:33)

Thus, do not ruin your life engrossed in summing up petty worldly things.

People today are living in delusions, thinking they will get away with all the injustice they do and the crimes they commit. Little do they know, this world and cycle of life and death is a test and every work of man will be weighed. Observe the clear verses of the Majestic Qur'an:

“He, who has created Life and Death that He might test you, as to whose work is excellent among you” (67:2)

Thus, we must keep our conduct sound.

After all the above discussion, very respectfully I want to ask my readers a question. Look at your deeds and introspect yourself and decide whether all you are doing is just to satisfy a never ending hunger for assets or for the divine will of Allah the exalted, the most high. Pay heed! Your stride, speech, expressions, striving, attention, power, will, determination all are spent in gaining worldly goodies, can you say you are doing things to please Allah the exalted? And if the answer is negative, then just think for a second, the sole purpose of you coming from nothingness into existence is pleasing Allah the exalted and worshiping him, the Clear and Magnificent Qur'an states:

“And I have created the Jinn and the men only for this that they may worship Me” (51:56)

Then why is your Ibadah quotient low? A thing which does not fulfill its purpose of creation is called ‘Useless’ and what’s useless is in fact ‘worthless’. You must be heedful of the fact that those who strive in Allah’s path to reach his divine closeness then surely they are the guided ones and I’m not saying this by myself, the Glorious Qur’an says:

“And those who struggled in Our path, surely We shall guide them in Our ways. And no doubt, Allah is with the righteous” (29:69)

Therefore, it is obligatory upon every sound minded person to be dutiful towards his Lord and the religion that he has the privilege to follow.

Detaching oneself from the worldly beauties is the door and doing introspection is the key, you the open the former with the later. And this will not happen unless and until we understand the temporariness of this world, its volatile nature (in terms of Computer Science), its deception and fallacy. When a believer surpasses all such hurdles in achieving the ultimate goal he reaches a place where he can truly call himself what the Grand Shiekh Baha-Uddin (may Allah sanctify his secret), the father of Mevlana Rumi (may Allah raise his ranks) said *“a traveller from Allah to Allah”*. Read this eloquent and thought provoking hadith narrated by Ibn Umar (Allah is pleased with them both) that the most generous and kind, the peace of our

hearts and mind, *Janab e Muhammad ur Rasoolullah* (upon him be blessings of Allah) said:

“Be in this world as if you were a stranger or a traveller along a path” (Sahih al-Bukhari 6053)

Thus, detach from the temporary world and prepare yourself for the everlasting one. I would like to finish my words with these couplets of “The Poet of the East” Allama Dr. Iqbal:

“Every second is for the Believer a new greatness, new majesty,

In his speech in his behavior a complete evidence of Allah,

Firmness, Forgiveness, Sanctity and Power

These four ingredients make up the Believer”

May, Allah guide us all to strive in his way and achieve success in both worlds. Ameen O Lord of the Worlds! Accept this through the mediation of your Beloved, the Prophet of forgiveness (upon him be countless blessings and endless salutations).

This article was completed on 12 Jamadil Awwal 1441, 8 Jan 2020, on the eve of a
beautiful rainy night.

- One amongst many at the doorstep of Scholars,
Sag e Bargah e Tajushariyah (Allah is pleased with him)

Fardeen Ahmad Khan Razvi

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